

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:10/539077
JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 15 JUN 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-11 (cancelled)

12.(new) A trawl apparatus with a trawl (1) and a means for gathering seafood/biomass and conveying it to a seafood/biomass receiving vessel (3), wherein the trawl (1) has an elongate, rigid or flexible collecting cage (5) which at an inlet opening (5') is connected to the rear end region (1') of the trawl, and from the inlet opening extends into a second portion, which has openings for straining water, and is terminated in a downstream portion (5''; 5'''); wherein a conveying hose or pipe (4; 16, 16') for conveying seafood/biomass from the collecting cage (5) to the vessel (3) opens into the downstream or aft portion (5''; 5''') of the cage (5) via a funnel (13; 17); wherein air or other fluid is supplied from the vessel (3) via a supply hose (6; 19) for injection into the conveying hose - or the pipe (4; 16), in order, by injector effect or fluid displacement technique, to bring the seafood/biomass from the collecting cage (5) up to the vessel (3), and wherein a filtering grille (12) is provided to filter away seafood or biomass which is not to be led to said funnel, characterised in

- that the supply of air or other fluid is, via the air supply hose (6; 19), adapted to be injected at a point on the conveying hose or pipe (4; 16) by means of an injector (20) in an upper area of the conveying hose or pipe

(4;16) which has a marked upward gradient towards the surface of the sea.

13.(new) An apparatus as according to claim 12, characterised in

- that the injector (20) is depth adjustable to be positioned at a required location in said upper area.

14.(new) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

- that said sorting or filtering grille (12) is provided at the inlet opening (5') of the collecting cage (5) and is arranged to extend obliquely inwards and upwards, downwards and/or sideways in the collecting cage (5); and
- that a portion (11) of roof, bottom and/or walls of the collecting cage (5) located at a downstream end of the grille (12) is open, so that seafood/biomass, for example, fish, or foreign objects over a certain size do not pass through the grille (12) but are led through the at least one open portion (11) and away from the collecting cage (5).

15.(new) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

- that the openings for straining water are formed of a self-cleaning grating or grille structure which may be rigid or flexible.

16.(new) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 15, characterised in

- that at least one wall, roof or bottom portion of the collecting cage is equipped with a mechanical device for effecting the cleaning of the grating or grille structure.

17.(new) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

- that the collecting cage (5) is modularly constructed of joined sections (10).

18.(new) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

- that the funnel is inside the cage (5), the mouth of the funnel (17) facing and spaced from closed aft wall (9''') of the cage (5).

19 (new).An apparatus as disclosed in claim 12, characterised in

- that in connection with, after or during the conveyance of the seafood/biomass from the collecting cage (5) to the vessel (3), there is provided a straining device (15') to separate seafood/biomass from seawater which accompanies it during

its conveyance from the collecting cage (5) to the vessel (3), and .

- that in connection with the straining device there is provided a deceleration device (15) which is designed to reduce the conveying rate of conveyed seafood/biomass.

20.(new) An apparatus according to claim 12, characterised in

- that sensors (21) are provided on or in connection with the collecting cage (5)for monitoring the position/orientation of the collecting cage (5) in the water, depth, water flow etc.

21.(new) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 13, characterised in

- that the openings for straining water are formed of a self-cleaning grating or grille structure which may be rigid or flexible.

22.(new) An apparatus as disclosed in claim 14, characterised in

- that the openings for straining water are formed of a self-cleaning grating or grille structure which may be rigid or flexible.